GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2036
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2003
NATIONAL AWARDS
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the awards like Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padamshri and other State awards have been returned by the recipients during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons given by each recipient;

(c) whether it is a fact that Baba Amte has threatened to return the Padamshri Award recently; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government for the removal of grievances cited by him?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI)

(a)&(b): Smt. M.K. Binodini Devi, who was decorated with `Padma Shri` in 1976, returned the decoration (including the Sanad and the Medal) on 3rd August, 2001 in protest against what she described as the integrity of Manipur having been put at risk without the consent of, or consultation with, the people of Manipur.

In his letter dated the 13th July, 2001, Shri Ratan Thiyam, who was decorated with `Padma Shri` in 1989, stated that he was `relinquishing` the honour as a protest against the emerging political developments and deteriorating conditions of life in Manipur. However, Shri Thiyam has not returned the Sanad or the Medal, yet.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.